

Criticism in the center of national outrage

In Minneapolis, many fault local leadership for the response to George Floyd's death. Anger isn't abating.

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske

MINNEAPOLIS — This city has become the center of a nation's anger and frustration as the National Guard rumbles through its streets, protesters threaten more upheaval and many across Minnesota blame officials here for a bungled response to George Floyd's death that over the last week has left the skyline in flames.

The rage emanating from Minneapolis has spread to Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and dozens of other cities in a torrent of demands — many made peacefully, some not — for justice over the death of another black man at the hands of police. But that rancor is particularly deep here, where residents complain authorities stood down for too long while looters and rioters ran wild.

"They dropped the ball. The moment the police officer did that, they should have called the National Guard in," said Glen Walton as he grilled hot dogs for hundreds of fellow protesters near the intersection where Floyd, 46, was fatally restrained Monday. "We are in it for the long haul."

Officer Derek Chauvin, 44, was fired a day after Floyd's death, but he wasn't charged with murder until Friday, hours after crowds overran his 3rd Precinct police station, setting it on fire. On Friday night, the largest crowds yet swept through the city, ignoring an 8 p.m. curfew, surrounding another precinct, rioting, looting and burning businesses as a few police officers and National Guard troops stood watching.

That momentum spread across the country, drawing in President Trump, who derisively tweeted that Minneapolis had to get tougher against demonstrators and [See Minneapolis, A6]



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

PROTESTERS stand atop a destroyed LAPD cruiser as another burns at 3rd Street and Fairfax Avenue in Los Angeles. More than 500 people were arrested downtown as the demonstration spun out of control.



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

A WOMAN affected by tear gas fired by police has milk poured on her eyes in South Minneapolis.



CRAIG RUTTLE Associated Press

A VEHICLE burns near New York's Union Square during a protest over the killing of George Floyd.

GUARD TO HELP QUELL UNREST IN L.A.

Mayor Garcetti requests state troops and imposes citywide curfew as looting, vandalism stun city.

By Kevin Rector, Richard Winton, Dakota Smith and Leila Miller

National Guard troops deployed onto the streets of Los Angeles early Sunday morning as looting, vandalism and violence intensified and the Police Department struggled to restore order after two days of disorder.

The dramatic move came after a day of deteriorating conditions, as protests marking the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police began peacefully but turned violent. Demonstrators burned Los Angeles Police Department cruisers, threw objects at officers and looted businesses, including the Apple Store and Nordstrom at the Grove shopping mall. Some protesters even made it to Beverly Hills' famed Rodeo Drive, where they were met by a line of officers.

Since the protests started, Mayor Eric Garcetti and other city leaders had encouraged peaceful expression and voiced support for the marches. But on Saturday, the mayor said the conditions on the streets were getting dark by the hour. First, he ordered a night curfew for downtown L.A. Then, about an hour later, he extended it to the entire city. Less than an hour after that, he requested the National Guard.

The last time the National Guard patrolled the streets of L.A. was during the 1992 riots, which erupted after the police officers who beat Rodney King were found not guilty.

Compared with those riots, the events in Los Angeles Saturday were significantly less widespread and dangerous. The protests and looting were limited Friday night and Saturday [See Downtown, A7]

Feels like the fires last time

The unrest in L.A. has some recalling the violence that erupted in 1992 after acquittals in the Rodney King case

By Ruben Vives, Laura J. Nelson, Kevin Baxter and Emily Baumgaertner

Los Angeles has seen this before. A black man is brutalized by police, prompting furious protests. The demonstrations turn violent; the city writhes to the sounds of sirens and breaking glass, the smell of smoke, the sight of faces contorted in rage.

There was a sense of weariness this weekend as demonstrators replayed the sorts of scenes that have scarred Los Angeles more, perhaps, than any other American city. This time the catalyst was

MORE COVERAGE

President taunts protesters in tweets

Trump talks of "vicious dogs" and "ominous weapons" if rallies were to reach White House grounds. **NATION, A6**

Many demonstrators worry about violence

As clashes erupt nationwide, activists and civil rights leaders worry that their message is being hijacked. **NATION, A5**

the killing, at the knee of a police officer, of George Floyd, some 1,800 miles away in Minneapolis.

"I was here for Rodney [King]," said Marsha Steinberg, 76, a self-described activist in the Fairfax district. "Nothing has changed."

It was the acquittal of four Los Angeles police officers in 1992 for King's beating after a traffic stop that triggered some of the worst urban violence in the nation's history. That occurred 27 years after the 1965 Watts Riots, also sparked by the violent arrest of an African American man.

Now, 28 years after the 1992 uprising, Steinberg was among hundreds who [See Violence, A7]

COLUMN ONE

Riverside families are in this together

Home is where the school is for neighbors in age of coronavirus

By Maria L. La Ganga

The plan started simply enough. As the pandemic forced schools to close in March, three families in a leafy corner of downtown Riverside banded together to make sure all their children kept learning.

The record-producer dad taught music classes. The court-commissioner mom gave speech lessons. There was time for art and silent reading and yoga and schoolwork assigned remotely by teachers who seemed very far away. Class began at 9 a.m., no pajamas, no excuses.

But achieving that modest goal — caring for one another's children — became far more complicated as the virus' toll mounted. What began as a

home school dubbed the Brothbush Academy ended up as a kind of coronavirus commune, as the quarantined families came to depend on each other to stay healthy and safe.

The Bristows and the Roths live side by side in century-old houses, one Craftsman-style, one Spanish Revival. Classes are held in one home or the other, and the gate separating their yards swings wide seven days a week, a constant stream of kids and parents, dogs and food, flowing back and forth. The Furbushes live 900 feet away — walk to the corner, hang a right, and you're there.

The families had been inseparable since long before anyone heard of COVID-19. Which is what made the March 28 meeting at the Roths' long dining room table so painful. After [See Commune, A8]

Architects hit the reset button

With the coronavirus changing everything, firms in L.A. envision the potential changes ahead in public spaces. **CALENDAR, E1**

Germany takes its leap of faith

Houses of worship have reopened, but a new outbreak underscores risks of the pandemic. **WORLD, A3**

Face mask deal drew characters

Offer to sell protective equipment to the government caught the attention of a colorful cast. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Pompeo weighs run for Senate

Secretary of State has until Monday to decide whether to wage a campaign amid ethics inquiries. **NATION, A5**

Weather
Morning clouds.
L.A. Basin: 77/60. **B12**

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SpaceX launches a new era

Astronauts in orbit for first time in private craft

By Samantha Masunaga

Riding a crackling flame out of Earth's atmosphere, two NASA astronauts on Saturday became the first to reach orbit in a craft designed and owned by a private company — marking a new era in spaceflight.

Astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley rocketed into space Saturday afternoon inside a SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule, en route to the International Space Station, where they're set to dock Sunday at 10:29 a.m. EDT.

Saturday's launch from Kennedy Space Center in Florida was the first time NASA astronauts have launched to orbit from U.S. soil in nine years.

"This has been a long time coming," NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said after the launch during the webcast. "I'm breathing a sigh of relief. I've heard that rumble before, but it's a whole different feeling when you've got your team on that rocket."

[See SpaceX, A12]



CHRIS O'MEARA Associated Press

A SPACEX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off Saturday morning in Florida, the first time NASA astronauts have launched to orbit from U.S. soil in nine years.